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Date: OCT 23 1964

KJ Letter Box

Sophomore's Reply

180 Main Street,
Winthrop, Maine

To the Editor:

I would like to answer the accusations made by Mrs. Burns of Augusta in a letter recently published in your newspaper.

Mrs. Burns: I read your letter and found it extremely interesting. I have not read "None Dare Call It Treason" but I would like to. I have been unable to find a copy. Could you tell me where you bought yours so that I might buy one also?

In your letter you stated, "We have for 20 years retreated from Communists and accepted it." You further stated that "high positions in our government are occupied by known Communists, our Foreign Intelligence and CIA employ known Communists." Kennedy's assassination was investigated by men known to be "soft" on Communism. "The Bay of Pigs was a Communist planned loss as was Cuba itself."

To challenge these statements, did we retreat from Premier Khrushchev during the Cuban crisis? True, all the missiles are not gone, but they no longer are brought in. Did we retreat from the North Vietnamese when they attacked our ships? I would also like to know what "high positions" are occupied by Communists as well as the men "soft" on Communism who investigated Kennedy's assassination. His murder was investigated by a committee headed by Chief Justice Warren. As for the Bay of Pigs, there were several plans. The first, approved by the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, probably would have succeeded. The late President Kennedy denied them his approval because our part had to be secret, which it was not in the plan. Changes were made, and as we all know, the final plan failed. If you would like to know more about the Bay of Pigs invasion, I suggest

that you obtain a copy of Reader's Digest, September, 1964, and read "Decision for Disaster" by Mario Lazo.

I would like to know the source of your information

that John Dewey was a "Marxist, denied a God, believed man to be without a soul or free will." I looked him up in several well-known encyclopedias and found no such information. Furthermore, he was not the founder of progressive education, he was not the first to say that he supported it. Horace Mann, Francis Parker and G. Stanley Wells were progressive educators of the 1800's; Dewey was a progressive educator of the 1900's.

As for progressive education being used in schools today as opposed to traditional methods, it has been shown through a study of 30 progressive high schools compared with traditional high schools, that the progressive school graduates did better in college and participation in community activities. ("Progressive Education," World Book Encyclopedia, 1960, volume 14, pages 716 and 717). You stated that "our children are being readied for complete communist domination." As a sophomore in high school, I would like to know how I am being readied.

You further state, the United States "will be taken from within by our well trained, conditioned, apathetic offspring." If I were, apathetic, could I be answering your letter? And if the United States were ever conquered by communists, I would actively participate in their overthrow and the restoration of democracy. Is this apathetic? I know right from wrong, have a set of moral standards, and take pride in being an American, all of which you seem to believe does not exist any more. And I am not different from many others.

To me a fanatic, extremist, or rightwinger is one who be-

lieves in such organizations as the John Birch Society and the Ku Klux Klan. These are wrong.

You ask why we peacefully co-exist with the Communist satellites. What are we supposed to do? Start World War III? Tell them to stop being Communists, or else? Deny their existence? These evidently cannot be done.

I agree with you when you spoke against these people who watch murders, rapes, stabbings and do not want to get "involved." Such people do not realize the duties Americans have toward their country. To report, if not try to prevent, these crimes is one duty we have. I also agree with you that more people should learn about the candidates from the local selectmen to President of the United States.

Respectfully,

MARIE PATTEN

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